Bruin E&P Operating, LLC – Various Well Sites Partial Compliance Evaluation (PCE) On-Site Clean Air Act (CAA) Inspections

Inspection Date: June 18-19, 2018

Inspection Report Date: December 7, 2018

EPA Representatives: Bob Gallagher – EPA Region 8

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Applicable Rules: Fort Berthold Indian Reservation (Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara

Nation), North Dakota (Fort Berthold FIP)

Observations

The EPA and MHA Energy inspected the following Bruin E&P Operating, LLC (Bruin) well sites/pads and attempted to detect natural gas emissions using infrared (IR) cameras and the Geospatial Measurement of Air Pollutants (GMAP) mobile unit. The inspections were conducted at locations with new wells, at facilities with previously noted emissions, and in specific areas on the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation. See Appendix A for more location details:

- Diente Pad
- Sneffels Pad
- California Pad
- Castle Pad
- Sunlight Pad
- Quandry Pad
- Cameron Pad

Appendix A also includes a table with inspection details for each site visited and the wells associated with each pad.

Bird Lockwood and/or Joseph Davis of MHA Energy accompanied EPA staff onsite at the locations for inspections on June 18 and 19, 2018. EPA staff used a FLIR IR camera as well as the GMAP mobile monitoring to determine emissions and measure concentrations of methane (CH₄), benzene, and toluene. MHA Energy staff used an Opgal IR camera to detect emissions at the well pad sites.

Inspection Information

EPA inspectors scanned well sites located on the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation (FBIR) for detectable emissions using an IR camera and using the GMAP. Specifically, EPA and MHA Energy inspectors scanned for detectable emissions from crude and/or water storage tanks, generators, flares, and piping at the well pads. EPA focused on newly constructed wells where emissions are more likely to be observed. Additionally, at the FBIR sites, EPA observed flares with the IR camera to determine if the flares appeared to be in compliance with Fort Berthold FIP applicable requirements. Please be advised that this inspection report is finalized, but that the report is not a final determination of compliance.

Fort Berthold FIP Applicability

Based on drilling information reported to the NDIC well index by Bruin, the well sites listed in Appendix A were completed after the August 12, 2007 applicability date (per 40 C.F.R. § 49.4161) and are producing from the Bakken Pool (per 40 C.F.R. § 49.4163(a)(1)) and are thus subject to the Fort Berthold FIP (See Table 1).

Closed Vent System Equipment Requirements [§49.4165(b)(1)]

"Each closed-vent system must route all produced natural gas and natural gas emissions from production and storage operations to the natural gas sales pipeline or the control devices...". The EPA, using an IR camera, inspected each facility to ensure all emissions are being routed from the storage tanks to the emissions control device. As an area of concern, the IR camera detected emissions from the bottom of the heater treater fire tube on the Sneffels pad.

Closed Vent System Equipment Requirements [§49.4165(b)(3)]

"Each closed-vent system must be designed to operate with no detectable natural gas emissions." The EPA, using an IR camera, inspected each closed-vent system to ensure that there were no detectable emissions. As an area of concern, the GMAP mobile monitors detected emissions of methane on the Diente and Sneffels pads.

Utility Flares [\$49.4165(c)(6)(i)]

"The owner or operator must ensure that each enclosed combustor and utility flare is: (i) Operated properly at all times that produced natural gas and/or natural gas emissions are routed to it." EPA looked at each utility flare for any indication that the utility flare was not being operated properly. As an area of concern, the IR camera detected uncombusted flare material on the Sneffels pad.

Utility Flares [§49.4165(c)(6)(vii)]

"The owner or operator must ensure that each enclosed combustor and utility flare is: (vii) Operated with no visible smoke emissions." EPA looked at each utility flare for any indication of visible smoke emissions.

Areas of Concern

The following areas of concern were noted:

- The IR camera detected emissions from the bottom of the heater treater fire tube on the Sneffels pad.
- The GMAP mobile monitors detected emissions of methane on the Diente and Sneffels pads.
- The IR camera detected uncombusted flare material on the Sneffels pad.

Table 1 - Requirements Applicable to Inspection Observations						
Regulation	Requirement Type	Regulatory Text				
Fort Berthold FIP	Control Equipment Requirements – Covers	§49.4165(a): (a) Covers. Each owner or operator must equip all openings on each produced oil storage tank and produced water storage tank interconnected with produced oil storage tanks with a cover to ensure that all natural gas emissions are efficiently being routed through a closed-vent system to a vapor recovery system, an enclosed combustor, a utility flare, or a pit flare. (1) Each cover and all openings on the cover (e.g., access hatches, sampling ports, pressure relief valves (PRV), and gauge wells) shall form a continuous impermeable barrier over the entire surface area of the produced oil and produced water in the storage tank. (2) Each cover opening shall be secured in a closed, sealed position (e.g., covered by a gasketed lid or cap) whenever material is in the unit on which the cover is installed except during those times when it is necessary to use an opening as follows: (i) To add material to, or remove material from the unit (this includes openings necessary to equalize or balance the internal pressure of the unit following changes in the level of the material in the unit); (ii) To inspect or sample the material in the unit; or (iii) To inspect, maintain, repair, or replace equipment located inside the unit. (3) Each thief hatch cover shall be weighted and properly seated. (4) Each PRV shall be set to release at a pressure that will ensure that natural gas emissions are routed through the closed-vent system to the vapor recovery system, the enclosed combustor, or the utility flare under normal operating conditions.				
Fort Berthold FIP	Control Equipment Requirements – Closed-vent systems	(b) Closed-vent systems. Each owner or operator must meet the following requirements for closed-vent systems: (1) Each closed-vent system must route all produced natural gas and natural gas emissions from production and storage operations to the natural gas sales pipeline or the control devices required by paragraph (a) of this section. (2) All vent lines, connections, fittings, valves, relief valves, or any other appurtenance employed to contain and collect natural gas, vapor, and fumes and transport them to a natural gas sales pipeline and any VOC control equipment must be maintained and operated properly at all times. (3) Each closed-vent system must be designed to operate with no detectable natural gas emissions. (4) If any closed-vent system contains one or more bypass devices, except as provided for in paragraph (b)(4)(iii) of this section, that could be used to divert all or a portion of the natural gas emissions, from entering a natural gas sales pipeline and/or any control devices, the owner or operator must meet the one of following requirements for each bypass device: (i) At the inlet to the bypass device that could divert the natural gas emissions away from a natural gas sales pipeline or a control device and into the atmosphere, properly install, calibrate, maintain, and operate a natural gas flow indicator that is capable of taking continuous readings and sounding an alarm when the bypass device is open such that natural gas emissions are being, or could be, diverted away from a natural gas sales pipeline or a control device and into the atmosphere; (ii) Secure the bypass device valve installed at the inlet to the bypass device in the non-diverting position using a car-seal or a lock-and-key type configuration;				

	Table 1 - F	Requirements Applicable to Inspection Observations
Regulation	Requirement Type	Regulatory Text
		(iii) Low leg drains, high point bleeds, analyzer vents, open-ended valves or lines, and safety devices are not subject to the requirements applicable to bypass devices.
Fort Berthold FIP	Control Equipment Requirements – Enclosed combustors and utility flares	(c) Enclosed combustors and utility flares. Each owner or operator must meet the following requirements for enclosed combustors and utility flares: (1) For each enclosed combustor or utility flare, the owner or operator must follow the manufacturer's written operating instructions, procedures and maintenance schedule to ensure good air pollution control practices for minimizing emissions; (2) For each enclosed combustor or utility flare, the owner or operator must ensure there is sufficient capacity to reduce the mass content of VOC in the produced natural gas and natural gas emissions routed to it by at least 98.0 percent for the minimum and maximum natural gas volumetric flow rate and BTU content routed to the device; (3) Each enclosed combustor or utility flare must be operated to reduce the mass content of VOC in the produced natural gas and natural gas emissions routed to it by at least 98.0 percent; (4) The owner or operator must ensure that each utility flare is designed and operated in accordance with the requirements of 40 CFR 60.18(b) for such flares, except for \$60.18(c)(2) and (f)(2) for those utility flares operated with an electronically controlled automatic igniter. (5) The owner or operator must ensure that each enclosed combustor is: (i) A model demonstrated by a manufacturer to the meet the VOC destruction efficiency requirements of \$\$49.4161 through 49.4168 using the procedure specified in 40 CFR part 60, subpart OOO at \$60.5413(d) by the due date of the first annual report as specified in \$49.4168(b); or (ii) Demonstrated to meet the VOC destruction efficiency requirements of \$\$49.4161 through 49.4168 using EPA approved performance test methods specified in 40 CFR part 60, subpart OOOO at \$60.5413(b) by the due date of the first annual report as specified in \$49.4168(b). (6) The owner or operator must ensure that each enclosed combustor and utility flare is: (ii) Operated properly at all times that produced natural gas and/or natural gas emissions are routed to it; (iii) Operated w

	Table 1 - Requirements Applicable to Inspection Observations						
Regulation	Requirement Type	Regulatory Text					
Fort Berthold FIP		(d) Pit Flares. Each owner or operator must meet the following requirements for pit flares: (1) The owner or operator must develop written operating instructions, operating procedures and maintenance schedules to ensure good air pollution control practices for minimizing emissions from the pit flare based on the site-specific design. (2) The owner or operator must only use a pit flare for the following operations: (i) To control produced natural gas and natural gas emissions during well completion operations or recompletion operations; (ii) To control produced natural gas and natural gas emissions in the event that natural gas recovered for pipeline injection must be diverted to a backup control device because injection is temporarily infeasible and there is no operational enclosed combustor or utility flare at the oil and natural gas production facility. Use of the pit flare for this situation is limited to a maximum of 500 hours in any twelve (12) consecutive months; or (iii) Control of standing, working, breathing, and flashing losses from the produced oil storage tanks and any produced water storage tank interconnected with the produced oil storage tanks if the uncontrolled potential VOC emissions from the aggregate of all produced oil storage tanks is less than, and reasonably expected to remain below, 20 tons in any consecutive 12-month period. (3) The owner or operator must only use the pit flare under the following conditions and limitations: (ii) The pit flare is operated to reduce the mass content of VOC in the produced natural gas and natural gas emissions routed to it by at least 90.0 percent; (iii) The pit flare is operated in accordance with the site-specific written operating instructions, operating procedures, and maintenance schedules to ensure good air pollution control practices for minimizing emissions; (iv) The pit flare is operated with no visible smoke emissions; (iv) The pit flare is operated with no electronically controlled automatic igniter; (v) The pit flare is overated wi					
Fort Berthold FIP	Control Equipment Requirements – Other Control Devices	(e) Other Control Devices. Upon prior written approval by the EPA, the owner or operator may use control devices other than those listed above that are determined by EPA to be capable of reducing the mass content of VOC in the natural gas routed to it by at least 98.0 percent, provided that:					

Table 1 - Requirements Applicable to Inspection Observations						
Regulation	Requirement Type	Regulatory Text				
		(1) In operating such control devices, the owner or operator must follow the manufacturer's written operating instructions, procedures and maintenance schedule to ensure good air pollution control practices for minimizing emissions; and (2) The owner or operator must ensure there is sufficient capacity to reduce the mass content of VOC in the produced natural gas and natural gas emissions routed to such other control devices by at least 98.0 percent for the minimum and maximum natural gas volumetric flow rate and BTU content routed to each device. (3) The owner or operator must operate such a control device to reduce the mass content of VOC in the produced natural gas and natural gas emissions routed to it by at least 98.0 percent.				

APPENDIX A: Inspection Details

Date	Wellpad Permit No	Current Well Name	PCE/FCE	IR Camera Footage Taken File #	GMAP File	Emissions Measured by GMAP
6/18/2018		(Diente Pad)	PCE	MOV_0091	180618-MA01	
	25801	FORT BERTHOLD 147-94-3B-10-7H	(Did not			
	24272	FORT BERTHOLD 147-94-3B-10-3H	assess engines)		180618-MA02	CH4 = 7.5 ppm
	24271	FORT BERTHOLD 147-94-3B-10-4H FORT BERTHOLD 147-94-3B-10-5H			180618-MA03	CH4 = 13.5 ppm
	24270	FORT BERTHOLD 147-94-3B-10-5H				
6/18/2018	26293	(Sneffels Pad)	PCE	MOV_0092	180618-MA04	CH4 = 5.5 ppm
		FORT BERTHOLD 148-94-35C-26-5H	(Did not			
	26295	FORT BERTHOLD 148-94-35C-26-3H	assess engines)	MOV_0093		
	26294	FORT BERTHOLD 148-94-35C-26-4H		MOV_0094		
	25598	FORT BERTHOLD 147-94-2B-11-3H				
	25597	FORT BERTHOLD 147-94-2B-11-4H				
	25596	FORT BERTHOLD 147-94-2B-11-5H				
6/18/2018	18341	(California Pad)	PCE		180618-MA05	
	20,600	FORT BERTHOLD 147-94-1A-12-1H	(Did not			
	30680 30679	FORT BERTHOLD 147-94-1A-12-9H FORT BERTHOLD 147-94-1A-12-10H	assess engines)			
	30079	FORT BERTHOLD 147-94-1A-12-10H				
6/18/2018	20086	(Castle Pad)	PCE		180618-MA11	
	20015	FORT BERTHOLD 150-94-3B-10-1H	(Did not			
	20915 20088	FORT BERTHOLD 150-94-3B-10-2H	assess engines)			
	20088	FORT BERTHOLD 151-94-34C-27-1H FORT BERTHOLD 151-94-34C-27-2H	_			
	20910	FORT BERTHOLD 131-94-34C-27-2fi				
6/19/2018	32158	(Sunlight Pad) PCE FORT BERTHOLD 152-94-13B-24-13H (Did not		MOV_0120	180619-MA07	
	25370	FORT BERTHOLD 152-94-13B-24-2H	assess engines)	MOV_0121		
	32157	FORT BERTHOLD 152-94-13B-24-11H		MOV_0122		
	32156	FORT BERTHOLD 152-94-13B-24-12H				
	18905	FORT BERTHOLD 152-94-13B-24-1H				
6/19/2018	18402	(Quandry Pad) FORT BERTHOLD 152-94-22D-15-1H	PCE (Did not assess engines)	MOV_0126	180619-MA08	
6/19/2018	24738	(Cameron Pad) FORT BERTHOLD 152-94-15B-22-5H	PCE (Did not assess		180619-MA09	
	24737	FORT BERTHOLD 152-94-15B-22-6H	engines)			

APPENDIX B: IR Log

COMPANY/	SITE	FILE	File #.Format	РНОТО	DISTANCE	DESCRIPTION
OPERATOR		DATE		GRAPHER	(yds)	
					Camera to	
					Leak	
Bruin E&P	Diente Pad	6/18/2018	MOV_0091.mp4	D. Au	Not	Emissions from the
Operating, LLC					reported	bottom of heater treater
						fire tube
Bruin E&P	Sneffels Pad	6/18/2018	MOV_0092.mp4	D. Au	Not	Uncombusted flare
Operating, LLC					reported	material
Bruin E&P	Sneffels Pad	6/18/2018	MOV_0093.mp4	D. Au	Not	Uncombusted flare
Operating, LLC					reported	material
Bruin E&P	Sneffels Pad	6/18/2018	MOV_0094.mp4	D. Au	Not	Uncombusted flare
Operating, LLC					reported	material
Bruin E&P	Sunlight Pad	6/19/2018	MOV_0120.mp4	D. Au	Not	Flare
Operating, LLC					reported	
Bruin E&P	Sunlight Pad	6/19/2018	MOV_0121.mp4	D. Au	Not	Flare
Operating, LLC					reported	
Bruin E&P	Sunlight Pad	6/19/2018	MOV_0122.mp4	D. Au	Not	Flare
Operating, LLC					reported	
Bruin E&P	Quandry Pad	6/19/2018	MOV_0126.mp4	D. Au	Not	Gas portable generator
Operating, LLC					reported	for comparison